

PASSED, W/ AMENDMENTS. 1/20/2013.

(THIS IS THE UN-AMENDED VERSION)

## PROPOSAL

The Boston Occupier, an affinity group, proposes that the Occupy Boston General Assembly donate \$7103.75 to support the printing and distribution of five issues of the Boston Occupier newspaper, over a period of six months (March through August 2013, inclusive).

Funds from the Occupy Boston General Assembly will be used only to cover costs associated with printing and distributing the newspaper. The Boston Occupier will observe complete financial transparency in its disbursement of the funds (as the group has done since it began; see <http://bostonoccupier.com/budget-report/>). Meanwhile, it will continue to investigate and develop other fundraising models in an effort to achieve long-term financial viability.

The Boston Occupier will remain open to new writers, editors, cartoonists, distributors, and other staff members. It will continue to operate its organization on a model of mutual respect and consensus-based decision making.

The Occupy Boston General Assembly will not have any editorial control over the paper or the website (<http://bostonoccupier.com/>) as a result of its donation. We believe that the previous twelve issues of the print edition, as well as the archived content on our website, indicate the consistency of our subject matter, our editorial standards, and our commitment to progressive, radical, left, and grassroots causes and values. We believe our values and practices to be broadly consistent with the values and practices of Occupy Boston.

## BACKGROUND

The mission of the Boston Occupier is to produce free, grassroots journalism for New England's 99% and beyond, while adhering to the principles of accuracy, fairness, transparency, thoroughness and independence. Through the publication of our print and online editions, we aim to be a credible, engaging source of information about progressive, radical, left, and grassroots issues as well as organizing on behalf of social and economic justice and anti-oppression. We are

especially concerned to cover stories that the mainstream media neglects to report, or reports in a biased or inadequate manner.

On November 18, 2011, we printed our first issue of paper, and our most recent issue hit the streets in mid-December, 2012. As of this issue, our twelfth, we have distributed more than 120,000 copies of the Boston Occupier. The vast majority of our distribution is in the greater Boston area and Massachusetts. In addition to regular staff writers, past contributors (of reports, stories, and/or photos) include Noah McKenna, Sage Radachowsky, Betsy Boggia, Amanda Achin, Ian Spinich, Theresa Earle, Brian Kwoba, Bil Lewis, Chase Carter, Anna Clayton, and Deborah Sirotkin Butler. Recent subject matter includes anti-drone activism in Boston, Idle No More, rallies in solidarity with Bangladeshi workers, Occupy Sandy, fossil fuel divestment, Monsanto, Boston workers' protests against Diva Restaurant wage theft, Bradley Manning, student debt, the Debt Jubilee, the Malden Tentants' Union, Occupy Homes MA, the Lawrence Bread & Roses Festival, Howard Zinn, the South African miners' strike, the MBTA, the corporate attack on public education, ALEC, 350.org, and Pilgrim Nuclear power plant.

Content produced by our staff has been reprinted in the Boston Dig, Dollars & Sense, and truthout.org, among other outlets. OBR (Occupy Boston Radio), Boston's Spare Change News, Open Media Boston have recognized our efforts and reached out to collaborate with us.

Past funding for the Boston Occupier has come from a Kickstarter fund, subscriptions and donations, and a grant from the Movement Resource Group (a working group of Occupy Wall Street). This grant was for six months of funding, and its term ended in January 2013. The newspaper has started the process of coming a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit organization.

Current, regularly participating members of the Boston Occupier include Angie Brandt, Emily Hopkins, Doug Enaa Greene, Joe Ramsey, Kendra Moyer, Julie Orlemanski, Josh Sager, Sarah Herman, Dan Schneider, and Sandra Korn.